

ABSTRACT

CARR-307

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 71(74)

1767 (reset 1902)

Kingsdale, Pennsylvania vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. 71(74) is an original monument of 1767 at its original site, marking Mason and Dixon's 71st horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, longest of their survey lines run and marked during their 1763-68 commission to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. As with all original West Line monuments, this milestone was quarried and carved in England, of oolitic limestone, was about 12" square by about 4½' long, cut to stand as a post about 3' above ground, with the base left rough-cut for setting below ground. It is embellished with vertical fluting, edged with horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, and with a low pyramidal top with fluted planes converging at a centered apex. The distinguishing features are the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk into a plain shallow circle panel near the top. Repaired and reset in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, it remains firmly set about 9" above ground, still measures about 12" square, is in good condition, unaltered though now whitewashed, and possibly endangered by future residential development. On the national and state levels, No. 71(74) is significant primarily as one of the series of 135 original monuments still marking the West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 18 original monuments marking the present Carroll/York-Adams county boundary (3 cownstones; 15 milestones), it is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CARR-307

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name) *

BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)
historic (Mason and Dixon's) West Line, 71st Mile Stone

* and/or common Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 71 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 74)

2. Location

street & number off north side of Ruggles Road ☒ not for publication

city, town Kingsdale ☒ vicinity of congressional district MD: 6 / PA: 19

state Pennsylvania county MD: Carroll / PA: Adams

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status N/A	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: state boundary marker

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

(monument only; see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)
name State of Maryland / Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

N/A (see surrounding property ownership list)
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

liber

street & number folio

city, town state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

(also see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)
title Carroll County Historic Sites Inventory

date CARR-307 entered 1/80 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-307

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered


Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Milestone No. 71(74) marks Mason and Dixon's 71st horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is an original milestone of 1767; at its original site (preliminarily surveyed in 1765), though reset in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary; is in good condition, repaired but unaltered.

The area here is generally open ^{fairly level} farmland, sparsely settled except for along the main roads. The site is within Election District 1 of Carroll County, MD; Germany Township of Adams County, PA; about ½ mile southwest of the scattered roadside settlement of Kingsdale, PA; at a point about 0.15 mile west of MD 194, in an open unfenced field about 280' north of Ruggles Road, opposite a north-south hedgerow on the south side of the road; in a nest of cedar branches. The tax maps show this property as a residential subdivision, and ^{lot} stakes are in place. The site can be seen from the road, all seasons, and will surely be endangered once construction begins.

As with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, this milestone is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top; ^{was} quarried and carved in England, then measuring about 12" square by about 4½' long, with the base left rough-cut for setting into the ground. There was ^{vertical} fluting on all four sides, framed at each vertical edge by horizontally-fluted margins; and fluting on the top planes, converging at a centered apex. The distinguishing features are the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk into a plain shallow circle panel near the top. No. 71(74) ^{repaired and} was reset in 1902 ^{presumably} to stand about 1½' above ground; and though it still measures close to 12" square, now stands only about 9" above ground, is in good condition with most embellishments remaining clear and intact; with an almost flat top, weatherworn;  a large chip out of the top southeast corner; and has been whitewashed.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for full descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-307

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) boundary surveying

Specific dates 1767 (reset 1902) **Builder/Architect** Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☒ national ☒ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Milestone No. 71(74) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of a series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still standing along their 230.228-mile West Line, a boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765, and monument set in 1767, where it remains unaltered to this day, although repaired and reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 18 original monuments marking the present Carroll/York-Adams county boundary (3 crownstones; 15 milestones), No. 71(74) is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-307

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acreQuadrangle name Taneytown (Maryland-Pennsylvania)Quadrangle scale 1:24000UTM References USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic)
do NOT complete UTM referencesA

1	8	3	1	7	4	3	9	8
Zone		Easting			Northing			

B

Zone		Easting			Northing			

C

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D

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification N/A

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
Maryland		Carroll	
Pennsylvania		Adams	

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason & Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)		
organization	Maryland Historical Trust & Maryland Geological Survey	date	3/30/80 (site surveyed)
street & number	14308 Mount Avenue	telephone	301/472-2128
city or town	Phoenix	state	Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

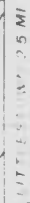
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

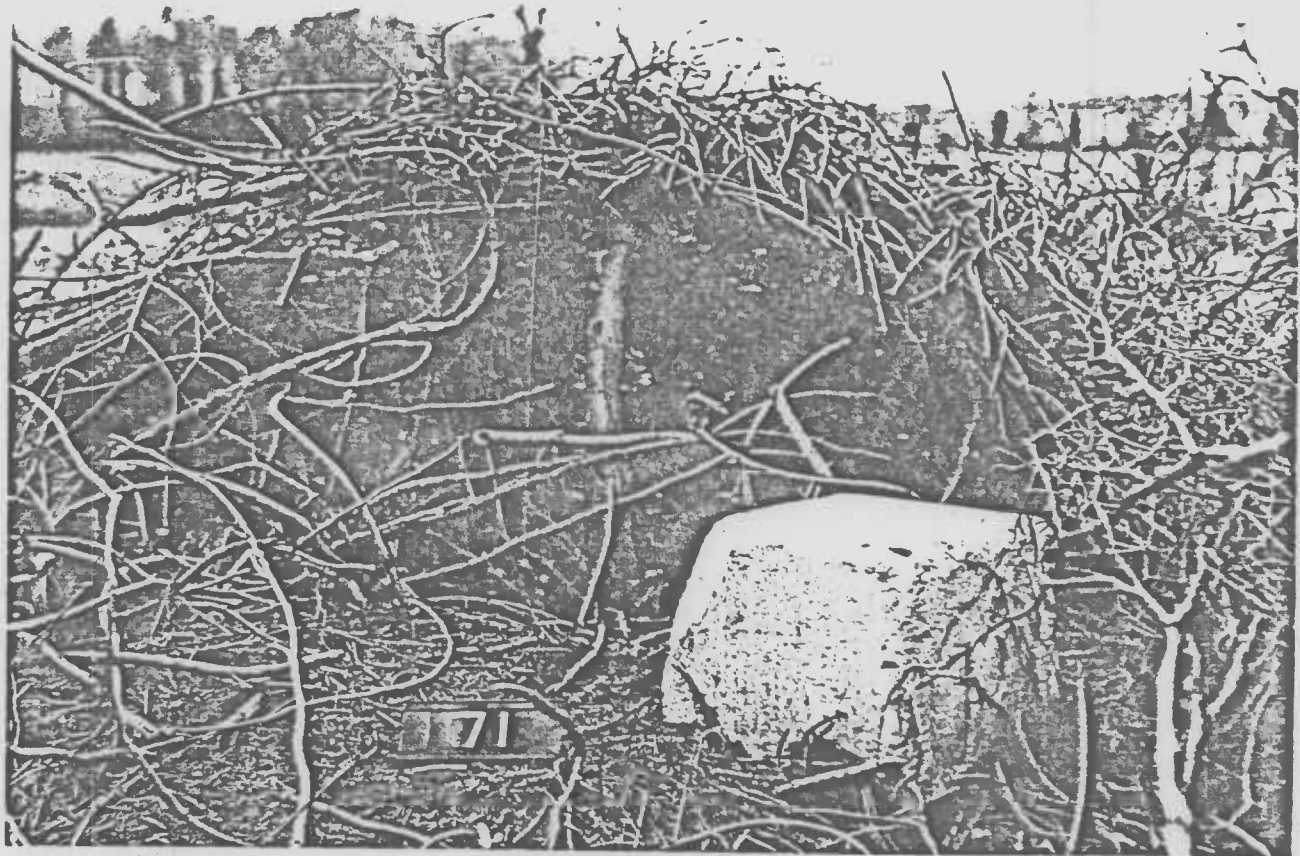
CARR-307

55631 SE
(MC SHERRYSTOWN)

↑
N

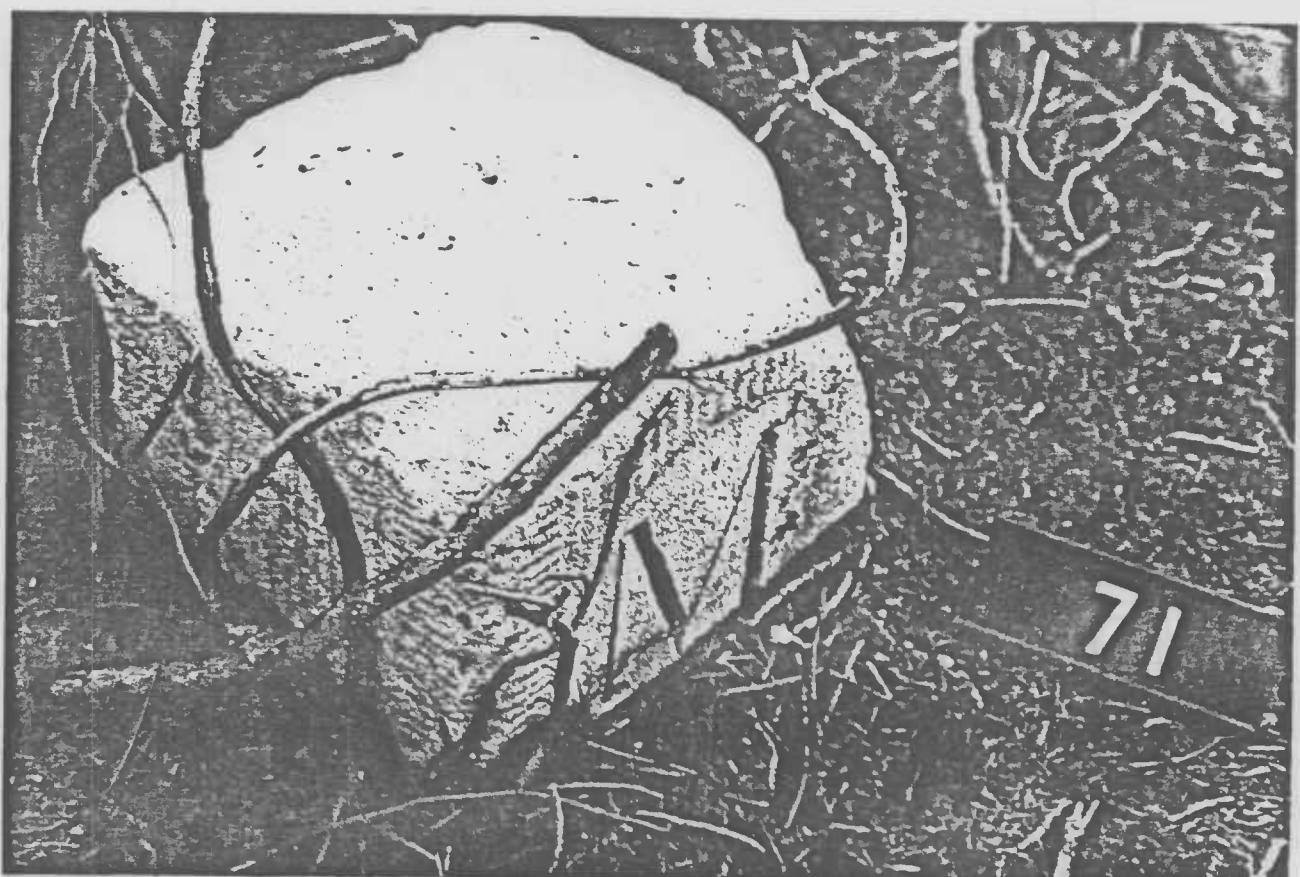


CARR-307



1st CORNER

PHOTO ALICE HARRIS 5/20/80 (1980. 14. 3A)



SID CORNER

PHOTO ALICE HARRIS 5/20/80 (1980. 14. 8A)

MGS

MHT-H.51: CARR-307

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 71 (74)

NE CORNER (-/P)

PHOTO: ALICE MA-

ALICE MARTIN

3/30/80

(1980.11.10)



MGS

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILE 9

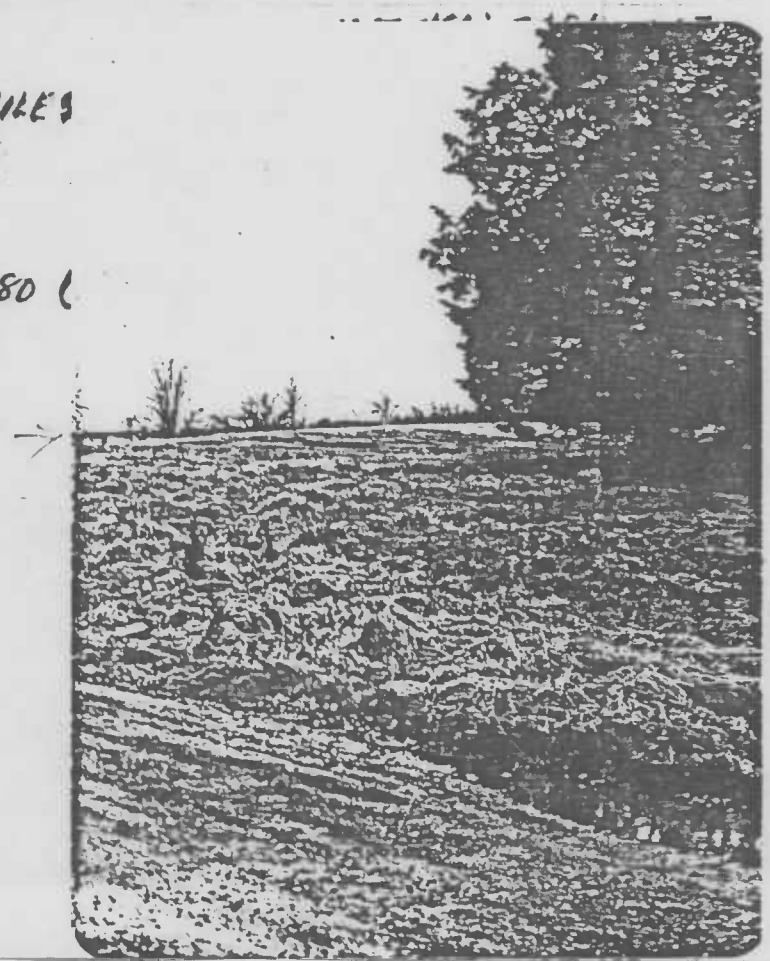
SW CORNER (-/M)

VIEW N.W. TOWARD STONE
FROM RUGGLES RD

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 3/30/80

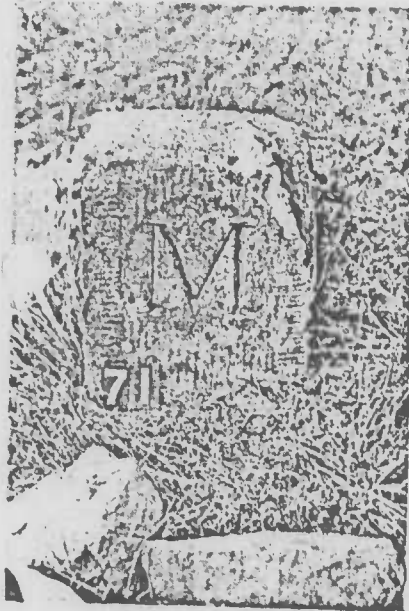
(1980.11.10)

(Stone in pile of brush)



CARR-307

Plate XII
1959
WEST WIDE MILESTONE 71





MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 71 (74), ORIGINAL (1767)
SW CORNER (—/M)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 3/30/80 (1980.14.9A)



MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 71 (74)
NE CORNER (-/P)
ORIGINAL (1767)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 3/30/80 (1980.14.4A)